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JANUARY 2022

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AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN, VENICE, FLORIDA BRANCH

P.O. BOX 515, VENICE, FL 34284

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NATIONAL: aauw.org

AAUW ADVANCES EQUITY FOR WOMEN AND GIRLS THROUGH ADVOCACY, EDUCATION, AND RESEARCH

**NOTE: THE MEETING THIS MONTH ONLY
WILL BE HELD ON THE 3RD THURSDAY OF JANUARY**

GENERAL MEETING THURSDAY, JANUARY 20, 2022

AT 10:00 A.M. (9:30 SOCIAL)

EMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH, 790 S. TAMiami TRAIL, VENICE

JANUARY GENERAL MEETING PRESENTATION



Our January 20, 2022, member meeting will feature Dr. Karen Holbrook, Regional Chancellor of the University of South Florida Sarasota-Manatee. Given her vast University experience, Dr. Holbrook will be speaking on 'Collegiate Women Today'. Dr. Holbrook is highly respected at the University as an outstanding scientist, administrator, corporate director and strategic planner. Colleagues call her "a truly excellent leader in every respect!"

Dr. Holbrook is a champion of students in higher education. She supports the USF Young Innovator Competition among many other youth opportunities. Interviewed by Sarasota Magazine, Dr. Holbrook says, "I love connecting people and being helpful. I see situations where I can use my experience and network to connect people to meet their goals, for the good of USFSM and hopefully for the good of the community."

Dr. Holbrook has an extensive and impressive background in higher education. She was appointed regional chancellor at University of South Florida Sarasota-Manatee in January 2018. She previously served as USF's EVP and senior advisor to the president of the USF system; SVP for global affairs and international research; and SVP for research, innovation, and global affairs.

Dr. Holbrook earned bachelor's and master's degrees in Zoology at the University of Wisconsin in Madison and a doctorate in Biological Structure at the University of Washington School of Medicine where she served as a postdoctoral fellow in dermatology, faculty member and research administrator. Early in her career was an active biomedical researcher and NIH MERIT Award investigator. She subsequently served as the interim president at Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University; the president at The Ohio State University; SVP for academic affairs and provost at University of Georgia; VP of research and dean of the graduate school at University of Florida; and the first woman to be named associate dean at the UW School of Medicine. Dr. Holbrook serves on numerous boards, advisory panels and councils in education and health-related fields.

**HAVE YOU LOOKED AT OUR BRANCH WEBSITE <https://venice-fl.aauw.net> LATELY?
READ ALL ABOUT THE NEWEST CHANGES!! [Pg. 5]**

**MESSAGE FROM OUR VICE PRESIDENT
SUSAN FARSTRUP**



Among the multiple disruptions caused by the pandemic, we were prevented from celebrating the century milestone of the 19th amendment as we had planned. As we look back, we must also focus on the future. Equity and the right to vote are part of the DNA of our organization. As stated on aauw.org, “AAUW is committed to open and fair elections, nonpartisan voter education efforts that will promote equitable political participation and representation in appointed and elected office, and the expansion of voting rights.”

The Florida AAUW website reminds us that we are bipartisan, but we hold important values which are in danger of being eroded. In addition to coordinating the annual Lobby Days in Tallahassee, the state public policy committee leads voter education and get-out-the-vote campaigns.

Women’s voices must be raised in support of fair elections with convenient voting access for all qualified citizens, legitimate voting districts, and accurate certification of the results. We must guard against the rollback of voting rights through voting restrictions and maneuvers to overturn election results. The accusations of, and belief in voter fraud are motivating tactics for legislation to inhibit the right to vote and impede the legitimate counting and certification of votes. Our democracy can’t lose what we as women fought so hard to achieve a century ago.

**MESSAGE FROM OUR MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR
PATTI WARNER**



We have welcomed nine new members the year 2021 with the prospect of several more who have requested applications. I am sure this will be a promising and fulfilling year for Venice AAUW.

I am sorry if you received a strange email from me as I got hacked and my emails were hijacked.

I have a new email address that will be listed in the December updates but you can always contact Membership and me through veniceaauw@gmail.com.

New is the year, and new are the hopes that we will be leading a more normal life from now on without as much Covid fear.

Looking forward to 2022 in AAUW!

WELCOME NEW MEMBER

BETTY EHIK

I want to introduce myself with a short, true story. Our school psychologist came to see me after working with a precocious kindergartner. The child was quickly able to go through a list of difficult vocabulary words but when he got to **mosaic** he thought and thought and finally said that he didn't know who **Moe Saik** was but he knew **Mrs. EHIK**; she was the principal. Young children don't see the world as we adults do. A good part of my professional life has been devoted to helping adults understand this concept and work with children in age appropriate ways. In fact, many times adults don't listen to each other carefully; communication is critical to achieving understanding and positive relationships. This has been another part of my career.

How did I get to this point? My earliest teachers were my grandparents and parents who came to the United States from Hungary. Education was so important to my family that my parents purchased an insurance policy to help me go to college when I was born. How could I possibly let these wonderful people down? I entered kindergarten not speaking a word of English and went on to earn a Bachelor of Science Degree, three Masters Degrees, and two Doctorates from Columbia University, a PhD in Communication and an EdD in Education. I have experience in prekindergarten through the college level, was an assistant principal in Fairfield, CT, and a principal in Greenwich, CT. I've done workshops individually and with groups, both nationally and internationally; I've also been a solo consultant or part of a group conducting training programs for business corporations, medical consortiums, educational groups, and even the military.

In the year 2000 I decided to semi-retire to Florida with two job offers to consider. I decided to give myself a year off and help my son open his toy store on Venice Island. The store turned out to be "fun" so I stayed there for 18 years and then decided to semi-retire again. I immediately joined our church choir and decided to finally join AAUW after being away from it for 58 years. I look forward to being a member and getting to know everyone better.



Betty EHIK with some of her hobbies: reading, collecting funky jewelry on trips, shells and nutcrackers



SPOTLIGHT ON MEMBER MARY FRITZ



She's one of only five members in our branch who have helped shape AAUW for more than 50 years. In Mary's case, it's actually more than 60 years but who's counting.

This snowbird, who is a dual member and past president of her branch in Plymouth Canton, Mich., has a lot of "firsts" in her credentials. She was the first member of that branch to be elected to statewide office. She served on the Michigan AAUW board of directors and took on a stint as editor of its statewide news bulletin.

Her Michigan branch is about to celebrate its 70th anniversary and she's been "zooming" from her winter quarters to help with the festivities. Although she won't be on hand for the anniversary event, she wrote a history of her home branch and was interviewed from Venice to share details from that account along with her personal memories.

She played a formative role in a major fundraising project for that Michigan branch, live drama for youngsters, now in its sixth decade. "They are doing Peter Pan this year," she reports.

She retired from a lifetime of educational positions, the last one as Director of state and federal programs in the Plymouth Canton District community schools. Her educational achievements include a Ph.D. (Wayne State University) in educational leadership and a minor in school law.

Along with her educational career, she had a side avocation, as a lifelong owner and operator of rental properties.

In her spare time (what spare time?) she belongs to four book clubs. She's also a member of a chapter of Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) and chair of its literary committee. A keen interest in legislative issues is another focus, and she maintains a membership in an association of retired educational personnel.

She believes that a "vibrant AAUW branch" is a community asset as well as an opportunity for educated women to meet others with like interests. When she was looking for a place to put down Florida roots part time, the presence of a strong AAUW branch in Venice spurred her interest in locating in this town.

We're glad you found us Mary!

[Judith Houston]

*** * WE HAVE UPDATED OUR AAUW WEBSITE! * ***

It is very important to keep our AAUW Venice Branch online presence updated and purge material that is dated or no longer relevant. When I first looked at the website, I was very impressed with the amount of information on there, and how well organized it is with information found under different headings. What we needed to do is take out anything that was out of date.

Now when you go to the AAUW Venice Branch website, you will see changes under the headings **Activities** and **Scholarships**. Under **Activities**, we updated meeting times and added an alert about the possibility of resuming our Home Tour next year. Education Chair Wendy Seeley wrote an updated description of the Tech Trek camps.

Under **Scholarships**, we retained information about the non-traditional scholarships for Sarasota County women and the requirements for applying. Wendy wrote a new article featuring the five women who were awarded scholarships in 2020. Wendy also wrote about individuals who are required to take a Required Minimum Distribution from an IRA can donate to a nonprofit in a way that can be deductible from federal gross income.

If you haven't checked out our website yet, take a look at <https://venice-fl.aauw.net>. Another easy way to get on the site is to Google AAUW Venice Branch.

We have recently joined Venice MainStreet, Inc and event information is now posted on their weekly e-newsletter.

Our next focus will be Facebook.

Nancy Brex, Communications Committee



MENTOR A NEW MEMBER - IT'S EASY!

We have three new members this month.

Sign up to be a Mentor to one of them—it is a fun way to get to know new members and in return they will feel more comfortable at our meetings knowing you. I will introduce you to each other at the next meeting.

Thanks. [Patti Warner]

CALLING ALL RECENT NEW MEMBERS!



Your fellow members want to know more about you! We invite you to write up a small bio of where you came from, what you are interested in, and why you became interested in AAUW. Don't be shy! Send your write up to Patti Warner, Membership Director.

FUND RAISING ART LECTURE EVENT

JANUARY 13 - 2:00 PM

LOCATION: VENICE COMMUNITY CENTER

Remember Venice AAUW is sponsoring the art lecture - Peggy Guggenheim: Art Addict presented by Baila Miller. The event is to raise funds for the scholarships that will be awarded in the spring.

Tickets are available at Venice-Fl.AAUW.net or at the door on the day of the event.

Please note that, because of this event, our regular January member meeting will occur on January 20.

ART IN THE AFTERNOON EVENT

JANUARY 19 - 1:00 PM

LOCATION: ISLANDWALK EVENT CENTER

This is one of the paintings that storytellers and a musician will describe at Art in the Afternoon, Wednesday, January 19 at the IslandWalk Event Center.

Members Dorothy Mancini and Linda Taylor will be among artists whose work will be written about in interesting story form. Then a musician will play a song about the art and finally, the artist will tell their story.

Anyone who has attended in the past will praise this performance. There is no admittance fee, but you must register with Trena Kelly for gate entrance and to save a spot.

We don't charge to come, but do take donations as there are expenses. Any extra money goes to IslandWalk and AAUW charities, so please be generous.

Art in the Afternoon will also be held again on February 23 and March 30.



SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS– 2021 –2022

AWAY DAY

(formerly Exploring with your Camera)

Group will be "Seeing the Invisible" at Historic Spanish Point, Osprey, on Friday, January 21. Time to be determined. Contact Stephanie Hallowell for further information.

COASTAL CRUISING

Coastal cruising will be motoring off on January 24 at 2:30 from Sarasota Marina Jack. Carpooling is available. Email Paula Dulski for further information.

COOKS CORNER

Cooks Corner is planned for January 19 at the home of Jeri Jaminet. Jeri can accommodate 12 guests so please be sure to sign up early. If you would like to attend, email Jeri, with a copy to Joan Kieran.

The theme of the day is "Comfort Food". Bring that dish with which you grew up, that you turn to when stressed out, that you don't need an excuse to make, etc. Happiness is [fill in the blank!]

If you'd like to join our list, please email Joan and she will add your name. It's a very enjoyable, casual group and always a delicious luncheon! Happy Holidays and New Year.

EVENING OUT

The first Evening Out will be Wednesday January 19 at 6 pm at the British Open Pub (corner of Jacaranda Blvd and E. Venice Ave. by the roundabout). Call or e-mail Melanie Odom by Monday Jan. 17. Looking forward to seeing you all there!!

LUNCH BRUNCH

Lunch Bunch is Wednesday January 26 and we will be lunching at 11:30 at Chef Rolf's New Florida Kitchen in Osprey. Please contact Paula Choyke to reserve your spot.

PHOTO GALLERY
HOLIDAY LUNCHEON 2021



PHOTO GALLERY
HOLIDAY LUNCHEON 2021





Cooks Corner Cookie Exchange

AWAY DAY SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP (formerly Exploring With Your Camera)
 18 AAUW participants had a jolly time rambling through Sarasota neighborhoods viewing Christmas decorations! **Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!**



JANUARY		BIRTHDAYS	
1	Patsy Campbell	16	Betty Ehik
1	Ellen Elie	18	Pat Blair
1	Barbara Stevens	18	Gail Densler
2	Joan Cash	19	Joan Kieran
2	Joyce Mikulski	20	Judith Rovins
7	Elaine Winqvist	24	Lydia Russo
13	Joyce Mahler	26	Mary Lloyd Burroughs
15	Carol Carlson	30	Kathryn M. Nelson

AAUW VENICE BRANCH ACTIVITIES — JANUARY 2022 CALENDAR

Day	Date	Time	Event	Contact	Location/Notes
Thurs	6	10:00	Duplicate Bridge	Susan Leege	The Floridian. Players should have experience with modern conventions, duplicate strategy & bidding boxes.
Fri	7	11:30	Euchre	Charlene Turczyn	Elks Club, Nokomis.
Mon	10	1:00	Book Group	Linda Weston Hilda Dillman	Jacaranda Library. In person. Book: <i>A Woman of No Importance</i> by Sonia Purnell
Thurs	13	2:00	Art Lecture Fundraiser Special Event	Susan Hotzler	Venice Community Center; doors open 1:30 pm. Tickets available online at Venice-fl.aauw.net ; or at the door day of event. Tickets \$25.00.
Fri	14	TBD	French Conversation	Jane Metcalf	Venetian Golf & River Club
Fri	14	11:30	Bridge For Fun	Carol Cudia	Bridge and lunch - Venetian Golf & River Club. You must sign up in advance.
Sat	15	Deadline for February Venice Views		Send Word articles and/or jpg formatted photos by email to aauwveniceviews@gmail.com	
Wed	19	1:00	Art in the Afternoon Special Event	Trena Kelly	IslandWalk Event Center
Wed	19	Noon	Cook's Corner	Joan Kieran	Theme: Comfort Food. Location Pelican Pointe G&CC
Wed	19	6:00	Evening Out	Melanie Odom Lois Odom	British Open Pub, 37 Jacaranda Blvd. Call or email Melanie Odom by Jan 17.
Thurs	20	10:00	Duplicate Bridge	Susan Leege	The Floridian. Players should have experience with modern conventions, duplicate strategy & bidding boxes.
Fri	21	TBD	Away Day	Stephanie Hallowell	Historic Spanish Point, Osprey
Fri	21	11:30	Euchre	Charlene Turczyn	Elks Club, Nokomis
Mon	24	2:30	Coastal Cruising	Paula Dulski	Sarasota Marina Jack, Freedom Boat Club. Car pool from Venice.
Wed	26	11:30	Lunch Bunch, Etc.	Paula Choyke	Chef Rolf's New Florida Kitchen in Osprey. Contact Paula to reserve your spot.
Thur	27	10:00	Play Readers	Fran Brinkman	Fran's home
Fri	28	TBD	French Conversation	Jane Metcalf	Venetian Golf & River Club
Fri	28	11:30	Bridge For Fun	Carol Cudia	Bridge and lunch - Venetian Golf & River Club. You must sign up in advance.



Venice Views Editor for January: Jeri Jaminet

E-copy Circulation: Paula Dulski

VENICE VIEWS: All submissions to our monthly Venice Views need to be sent by the 15th of the previous month to aauwveniceviews@gmail.com

Text in Word Formatted File [or if necessary in an Email]

Pictures in JPG Format Only!

Deadline for the **FEBRUARY** issue of Venice Views is **1/15/2022**